

HOUSE No. 2909

By Mr. Connolly of Everett, petition of Edward G. Connolly and others relative to providing a bonus for members of the armed forces who served in Bosnia or other conflicts or peacekeeping missions. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Edward G. Connolly	Bruce E. Tarr
Louis L. Kafka	James R. Miceli
William C. Galvin	Anne M. Gobi
Peter V. Kocot	Shirley Gomes
Kathi-Anne Reinstein	Susan C. Tucker
Christine E. Canavan	Patricia A. Walrath

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT PROVIDING A BONUS FOR ARMED FORCES SERVING IN BOSNIA OR OTHER CONFLICTS OR PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Upon application, as hereinafter provided, there
2 shall be allowed and paid out of the treasury of the common-
3 wealth without appropriation to each person who participated in
4 the Bosnian Peace Mission at any time between January first,
5 nineteen hundred and ninety-six at the end of the mission as deter-
6 mined by federal authorities the sum hereinafter specified.

7 Said appropriation shall also be provided to any person serving
8 in the armed forces in any subsequent conflict or peacekeeping
9 mission in which members of the armed forces have participated.

10 Provided, that the domicile of every person on account of whose
11 service the application is filed shall have been in the common-
12 wealth for a period of not less than six months immediately prior
13 to the time of his entry into the service and his enlistment, induc-
14 tion or commission in said armed forces was credited to the quota

15 of Massachusetts under the federal selective service act. Five hun-
16 dred dollars shall be paid to each such person who performed the
17 continental limits of the United States in the Bosnian area as said
18 area is described by proper federal authority.

19 Said appropriation shall also be provided to any person serving
20 in the armed forces in any subsequent conflict or peacekeeping
21 mission in which members of the armed forces have participated.

1 SECTION 2. The words, “armed forces”, as used in this act
2 shall mean the following: United States Army, Army of the United
3 States, United States Navy, United States Naval Reserve, United
4 States Marine Corps, United States Marine Corps Reserve, United
5 States Coast Guard, United States Coast Guard Reserve, Army
6 Nurse Corps, Navy Nurse Corps, United States Air Force and
7 United States Air Force Reserve and including women’s branches
8 of said armed forces.

1 SECTION 3. In the case of the decease of any person who
2 would, if alive, be entitled to the benefits of this act, the sum
3 named therein shall be paid to his heirs-at-law; provided, that if
4 there is more than one heir-at-law, payments shall in either case be
5 made in such proportions as the state treasurer shall determine,
6 and in determining the order of precedence so far as practicable
7 the following order shall be observed: wife and children, mother
8 or father, brother or sister, other dependents; provided, however,
9 that no right or payment under this act shall be subject to the
10 claim of creditors, capable of assignment, regarded as assets, legal
11 or equitable of the estate of the deceased or made the basis for
12 administration thereof.